

Message Text

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ACTION NRC-07

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4628

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PASS: LAFLEUR, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS, NRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION (TAEC) INTEREST IN
ARRANGEMENT WITH NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC).

REF: A) STATE 195991, B) ANKARA 6144

1. EMBASSY OFFICER DISCUSSED REF A WITH AHMET ERTURAN,
DEPSECGEN OF TAEC AND MRS. KIPER, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
DIRECTOR, TAEC.

2. ERTURAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR RECEIPT OF COPIES OF
NRC ARRANGEMENTS WITH BRAZIL AND DENMARK FOR EXCHANGE OF
NUCLEAR REGULATORY AND SAFETY INFORMATION. HE SAID HE WAS
IMPRESSED WITH STIPULATIONS IN DANISH AND BRAZILIAN-U.S. AGREEMENTS
PROVIDING FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE. IN CONTEXT OF PARA 3
OF REF A, ERTURAN SAID TAEC REALIZES THAT INFANT STATUS OF ITS
NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM MEANS IT HAS LITTLE OR NOTHING TO
OFFER NRC IN TERMS OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE. ERTURAN HOWEVER,
BELIEVES THAT U.S. STANDARDS IN NUCLEAR REGULATORY, LICENSING
AND SAFEGUARDS FIELD ARE BEST IN WORLD AND HE IS DETERMINED
TO WRITE TURKISH REGULATIONS IN THIS AREA TO CONFORM AS
CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE TO U.S. SPECIFICATIONS. ACQUIRING UP TO
DATE INFORMATION ON STANDARDS AND SAFEGUARDS IS A MAJOR PROBLEM.

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ERTURAN MENTIONED THAT IT TOOK HIM MORE THAN SIX MONTHS TO OVERCOME

TURKISH BUREAUCRATIC RED-TAPE INVOLVED IN GETTING APPROVAL TO TRANS-FER \$75 FOR PURCHASE OF NRC STANDARD REVIEW PLANS FOR LICENSING FROM NTIS. ERTURAN NOTED THAT EVEN A LIMITED AGREEMENT WITH ERDA AND NRC THAT WOULD PERMIT TAEC TO ORDER INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS WITH PERHAPS PAYMENT ON YEARLY BASIS WOULD BE OF IMMEASURABLE ASSISTANCE TO HIM.

3. REF B REPORTS ON STATUS OF TURKISH 600 MW NUCLEAR POWER REACTOR. ERTURAN STATED THAT REACTOR SITE AT AKKUYU, SILIFKE, TURKEY WAS LICENSED BY TAEC SOME WEEKS AGO. TURKISH ELECTRICITY BOARD (TEK) IS NOW PREPARING BIDDING DOCUMENTS TO GO TO SUPPLIERS OF PRESSURIZED WATER, BOILING WATER AND HEAVY WATER REACTORS. WHEN BIDS ARE IN, TEK WILL SELECT TYPE OF REACTOR TO BE BUILT AND ISSUE TENDERS FOR (1) NUCLEAR STEAM SUPPLY SYSTEM (2) TURBINE GENERATORS AND (3) CONSTRUCTION. CONSTRUCTION OF REACTOR IS PLANNED TO BEGIN IN 1978.

4. COMMENT: GIVEN MINIMUM OF NUCLEAR RESEARCH BEING DONE BY TAEC AND FACT THAT GOT HAS NOT YET DECIDED TO BUILD LIGHT WATER REACTOR, TAEC REALIZES THAT IT MIGHT BE PRESUMPTUOUS ON ITS PART TO PROPOSE ARRANGEMENT WITH NRC ON DANISH-BRAZILIAN PATTERN. NEVERTHELESS, ERTURAN AND TAEC DESIRE CONTINUING CONTACT WITH NRC AND WELCOME NRC ASSURANCES TO THAT EFFECT. AT THIS STAGE, THEREFORE, IT IS DIFFICULT TO KNOW IF AND WHEN TAEC MIGHT APPROACH NRC WITH PROPOSALS FOR MORE FORMAL ARRANGEMENT. EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME, HOWEVER, NRC IDEAS OF HOW WE COULD BE MORE HELPFUL TO TAEC WITHIN CONTEXT OF PARA 2, EITHER THROUGH TAEC APPLICATION FOR FORMAL ARRANGEMENT WITH NRC OR MORE INFORMAL ARRANGEMENT. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE, FOR EXAMPLE, FOR THE NRC TO ACT AS A CLEARING AGENCY FOR PURCHASE OF INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS ON SAFEGUARD, LICENSING, STANDARDS, ETC., FROM OTHER U.S.GM AGENCIES FOR TAEC WITH FORMAL TAEC AGREEMENT TO PAY FOR THESE MATERIALS ON QUARTERLY OR YEARLY BASIS?

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